

FRENCH INDO-CHINA

indefatigably set about to conquer. In 1933 the consumption of foreign tobacco was forbidden, and three local factories set up. Pasquier aimed in this way to favour the local tobacco growers and to create a new Industry, as well as new revenues, for the fisc. It is too early as yet to predict the results, but his experiment has aroused considerable interest in Indo-Chinese tobacco, as well as angry protests from Algeria, of whose product Indo-China was formerly a good client.

This crop is unique in that it is exclusively cultivated by the Chinese in a limited area along the Gulf of Siam. It is entirely exported to France, where it demands high protection, despite competition there with the superior Malabar product from French Malaya, not to mention other foreign rivals. Paris has subjected Indo-Chinese pepper to alternating regimes of free trade and protection, with varying success and with much agitation in the colony. France accuses Indo-Chinese planters of not trying to conquer other markets, of demanding a protection harms the budget, and of too poor a quality to justify so high a price. The planters, in turn, point to a retrogression in their crops due to France's refusal to give them the privileged position they require. true after the 1928 tariff went into effect, which the Metropolitan treasury suffers so much that Indo-Chinese re-taxed. Planters complained bitterly of such Indian- but by 1930 consented to a slight renewal of the tax, pepper situation is undeniably unsatisfactory: the is one of excessive production.

There are other miscellaneous crops which can be grown in Indo-China. The future is problematical. There are coconut, vanilla.

Certain crops have value as textiles, like
bat especially jute. Rice sack, which might be
made
are imported now in huge quantities *from*

It it » *m&* process to get new crop to the
point of com-
fa tie la 1931,81 per cent of Indo-CMna's exports
of fivt *mad* tic efi brts to
develop to
titc and have had only mediocre results,
Y«* la tibe wis '*mmws* ^og,, 'There
was * steady
of the —rice, coni, rubber—at higher
it it bcc%
optimism ss i&
At iir* widiai ^jpd, dwugh